ECU Students Speak to Board of Governors about Student Centers

East Carolina University is another step closer to approval of the new student centers and parking deck project. The UNC Board of Governors Budget and Finance committee met Jan. 9 in the Spangler Building in Chapel Hill to discuss the financial plan for the project.

The project calls for two new student centers – one to be built on the main campus and another on health sciences campus. In addition, a parking deck is planned to connect with the main campus student center.

SGA President Tim Schwan and ECU junior Kaitlyn Dutton were joined by Brig. Gen. James Gorham to show their support for the project as well as answer questions from board members.

Gorham, an ECU alumnus who also has a daughter attending ECU, told board members that this project is a lot like being a parent.

“When you first get married you oftentimes build a starter home to start your family,” said Gorham, vice president of the ECU Parents Council. “But as your family grows, you have to provide a quality dwelling for your expanding family to grow and have a better quality of life. ECU’s campus has grown considerably in the last 40 years and the students need a quality place for them to grow.”

Schwan and Dutton told the board members about the difficulty students face on ECU’s campus with Mendenhall Student Center, the current student union built in the 1970s.

“To say there is a lack of space for students in Mendenhall is an understatement,” Schwan said. “We need a place that serves as a living room, a place to meet and collaborate. We don’t have that now.”

Dutton added that a lack of a new student center is actually costing students more money.

“Some students face a yearlong wait to secure space in Mendenhall and for other major student events that are annual traditions, we have to host them off campus,” said Dutton. “That requires extra funds for reservations, transportation and off-site logistics and the cost is falling on the students to pay for it.”

Dr. Virginia Hardy, vice chancellor for Student Affairs, who attended the board session along with members of the ECU Board of Trustees, said this was a great experience for the students.

“Kaitlyn and Tim did a wonderful job of representing the East Carolina student body of today and tomorrow,” said Hardy. “They spoke from their heart trying to convince the Board of Governors to invest in ECU’s future and the success of our future students.”

The next step in the process is the vote by the UNC Board of Governors on Feb. 20 and if approved the project heads to the NC Legislature for final approval.

Watch Belk Hall Construction Live

The Belk Hall construction project has begun. There are two live cameras for people who want to check out the project. Each camera has the capability to provide a time-lapse going back to the start of construction to the current date. You can also zoom the cameras, view full screen, or even select a specific date to see what it looked like on that day. Please visit the Student Affairs home page to link to the cameras. Links are also on the Remember Belk Hall and Campus Living websites.
Student Affairs

Upcoming Events for 1/15-1/31

Click event name for more information

January 15th
Intramural Multiple Sport Registration

Intramural Sports Captains’ Meeting for 5-on-5 Basketball, Bowling, Innertube Water Polo, and Wallyball

Career Leadership Conference - Register Now

Service Alternative Spring Break applications before February 7th

January 16th
Coffee and Nibbles with Transfer Students

January 17th
Greek Life - IFC Chili Cook-Off

January 18th
NPHC Meet the Greeks

January 19th
Gathering 72

January 20th
MLK Day of Service

January 21st
MLK Speaker - Hill Harper "Visualizing the Dream"

January 22nd
Ledonia Wright Cultural Center - Open House

January 23rd
18th Annual Polar Bear Plunge

Get A Clue

January 24th
Highlight the Night - DJ Dance Party

January 27th
Sophomore Resource Fair

Hot Chocolate Giveaway

January 27th - 30th
IFC Recruitment

January 28th - 29th
Spring into Service Fair

January 28th
Panhellenic Open Bidding Kickoff

Live Band Karaoke

Student Affairs Divisional News and Notes

New Appointments

• Aaron Lucier appointed to GPD Commission – Campus Living’s Director of Housing Operations Aaron Lucier has appointed by the Greenville City Council to the Greenville Police Community Relations Commission. Aaron has been involved with GPD and Chief of Police Hassan Aden on a volunteer basis to develop LGBT officer training.

• Melissa Haithcox-Dennis Appointed as ABCC State Coordinator - ECU's Director of the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center has been appointed to serve as a State Coordinator for the National Association for Black Cultural Centers (ABCC). This is a national organization of Black and Multiculture Centers launched in 1988 whose purpose is to celebrate, promote, and critically examine the culture of people of African descent through the institutionalizing of Black and Multiculture Centers to enhance individual, community and global development.

Awards and Honors

• Justin Janak / Patrick Edwards - Leadership Symposium - Student Involvement and Leadership’s Justin Janak and Patrick Edwards, who recently accepted a new position at the University of Houston, have been asked to be a part of the National Leadership Symposium held in July 2014 in Tampa, FL to share and present on ECU’s utilization of the NACA Competencies Guide. Justin and Patrick were contacted by the Symposium Co-Chair, Dr. Michael Preston who is also an ECU alum (1995) and Director of Student Involvement at UCF. “This is an exciting opportunity to further competency based learning and discuss ECU’s assessment program that captures student learning,” said Janak. "We have finished the pilot study, crunched the data and have some great insights with research to back it up.” By the July presentation, they will have two years of data to share on individual, community and global development.

New Faces in SA

Career Center

• John Stowe - Career Counselor - Liaison to Harriot College of Arts and Sciences

John was raised in a military family and grew up all over the United States and Europe. He received his BA in English and MS in Counselor Education from ECU. Mr. Stowe spent his twenties working in Outdoor Education Leadership with Outward Bound and Princeton University’s outdoor program. He has a passion for adventure travel and participated in trans-African and trans-Asian bicycle expeditions in addition to a solo trans-American ride.

• Sara Ward Lage - Career Counselor - Liaison to Graduate Students & Student Athletes

Sarah, a native of Tyner, NC, is a 2003 graduate of ECU, where she received her MPA with a concentration in Human Resources. She received her BA in Political Science with a concentration in Public Policy and a minor in Business Administration from NC State. This past summer she completed her first sprint triathlon and an endurance ride with her husband.

LGBT Resource Office

• Mark Rasdorf - Mark joined ECU in December as the Assistant Director of the LGBT Resource Office. Mark received his Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling in May 2013 from Appalachian State University and earned a Graduate Certificate in Expressive Arts Therapy. Mark was recognized with Appalachian’s prestigious Gregory S. Blimling Award for Outstanding Graduate Student in Student Development for his contributions and leadership as the graduate assistant for Appalachian’s LGBT Center. A native of Alexandria, Virginia, Mark worked for more than 20 years in management, marketing and communications for the performing arts before charting a new path in 2009.
Making a Positive First Impression
Student Affairs Educators make an impact every day on campus in the lives of our ECU students. It could be a kind word, a listening ear, or a program we provide to keep them on the past to success. For Bill McCartney, associate vice chancellor of campus living, it was recognizing a look of someone lost and a bit confused where he stepped in and made a difference.

Bill saw Ashley Cruise and her family driving around campus in January 2013. The Cruise family was in from Kingston, New York because Ashley was considering attending ECU. Ashley told her family ECU might now be the place for her because the campus was too big. Bill did more than give the family directions; he took them on a tour of East Carolina University.

It didn’t end there. Ashley Cruise and her family returned in October 2013 for her official campus visit and Bill met Ashley and her family for dinner. A few weeks later, Ashley signed her National Letter of Intent, formerly accepting an athletic scholarship to play softball for ECU.

Click this link to see a video and full article from Ashley Cruise’s hometown newspaper, the Daily Freeman, where she talks more about becoming an ECU Pirate and the impact Bill had on her decision. You can never underestimate the impact of a Student Affairs Educator and you never know when that little moment can have a life-changing effect.

Winter Welcome 2014 - Polar Bear Plunge / Highlight the Night Dance

The Division of Student Affairs is hosting two major events to help students gear up for the spring semester called Winter Welcome.

The 18th annual Polar Bear Plunge is set for 7 p.m. on Jan. 23 at the Student Recreation Center outdoor pool. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m., with an ECU One Card required. All ECU students, faculty and staff are invited to jump into the icy waters of the outdoor pool. ECU Women’s Basketball Coach Heather Macy will kick start the event as the ceremonial first jumper.

The first 1,100 jumpers will receive a free event T-shirt. All jumpers should bring their own towel and must fill out a waiver prior to jumping. The waiver can be completed on-site or downloaded at www.ecu.edu/polarbear.

The Polar Bear Plunge started at ECU in 1997 as part of the grand opening of the Student Recreation Center when 35 participants took the plunge. The event has grown annually, breaking records each year since 2010. Last year, 1,094 jumpers participated.

The Sophomore Resource Fair - Jan. 27th

The sophomore year may be a time when students feel they cannot get the institutional attention and support they may have received as freshmen. Although ECU is here for students at all levels, for sophomores, college is no longer new. The excitement and thrill of a new experience has worn away, and they now face the reality that college will be three more years of hard work, courses, papers, and significant financial investment. These feelings of transition also come at a time when students may be struggling to determine career goals, dealing with personal development issues, and experiencing other diversions that may make academic and social integration even more difficult to attain.

The Sophomore Planning Committee has planned the 3rd annual spring Sophomore Resource Fair to address several areas in which current and rising sophomores may have an interest, e.g. exploring majors, support resources, employment opportunities, study abroad, student involvement, careers, alumni affairs, etc.

We would like to invite you and your staff to participate in the Resource Fair by providing information on the programs and services your department offers. This is also a time for students to meet staff members and make connections so students begin feeling comfortable with staff interactions.

The Sophomore Resource Fair will be held in Mendenhall Student Center, rooms 221, 244, and the Gallery, on January 27 from 3:00 – 4:30pm. If you are interested in participating please email Angela Marshall at marshalla@ecu.edu by Wednesday, January 22, 2014. If you desire more details about the event, please feel free to ask Angela.
I presented on the program in October 2013 on the topic “News Academy: Grow Your Staff With a Comprehensive Training Program” at the API/CMA National Student Media Convention in New Orleans. Some of my former students from Penn State and Georgia Southern joined nine student journalists from TEC to talk about the program.
University News and Information
Athletics - Ticket offer from AD Jeff Compher

ECU Athletics is pleased to offer three opportunities to see great basketball.
1. On Saturday, February 8th our men’s basketball team will host University of Texas – San Antonio (UTSA) at Minges Coliseum at 5:00 PM. ECU faculty and staff can purchase tickets for the game for just $5 each. Tickets MUST be purchased online by clicking ECU Faculty/Staff Appreciation Basketball Tickets. Select the USTA game on the right hand side, select where you would like to sit from the drop down menu and then enter a quantity (no limit) and add to cart.
2. We would like to invite you to be our guest at the women’s basketball game on Saturday, February 15th when we host North Texas at 5:00 PM. For this game, you can simply show your OneCard at the ticket window at Minges Coliseum on the day of the game and receive up to four (4) FREE tickets.
3. The Harlem Globetrotters are coming to Greenville on Friday, February 28th at 7:00 PM. ECU employees receive a $5 discount on all tickets, excluding the courtside seats. Please click here to purchase seats ECU Faculty/Staff Appreciation Globetrotters Tickets. Once you click on the link, select the Globetrotters game from the right hand side. The prices that appear are already showing the prices with the $5 discount. Select where you would like to sit from the drop down menu, enter a quantity and add to cart.

ITCS - Pirate ID Naming Scheme Changes

ECU is trying to eliminate duplicate pirate IDs in the ECU system – the lastname+firstinitial@ecu.edu scheme is no longer working well. Starting January 2014, newly hired faculty and staff Pirate IDs will follow a different naming convention.

The new naming convention is: “lastname+firstinitial+yearofhire @ecu.edu. For example, if John Doe was hired January 10, 2014, his email address would be doej14@ecu.edu.

Please note that this is only for NEWLY HIRED faculty and staff. Current faculty and staff PirateIDs WILL NOT CHANGE!

Message from Parking and Transportation regarding Construction

In August of 2013, Parking & Transportation informed the ECU community that the Flanagan/Slay lot and Founder’s Drive off 10th Street had to be closed due to safety concerns while some of the Master Plan’s Pedestrian Construction Project was underway.

Parking & Transportation would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding while we worked around the safety issue concerns during that construction project. After reconfiguring the lot for pedestrian safety, we are now pleased to announce that the Flanagan/Slay lot will Re-Open on Monday, January 13, 2014! Since this lot will re-open, the Umstead lot that was used to relocate Student Health parking and additional ADA spaces will revert back to a Pay by Space only lot. That means that A1 permit holders will officially no longer be allowed to park in the Umstead lot as of Tuesday, January 21, 2014.

In addition, only A1 permit holders, service/maintenance vehicles, emergency vehicles and Student Health Services’ patients can enter Founders Drive from 10th Street and access the Flanagan/Slay lot. All other vehicles, including drop-offs, are prohibited from Founders Drive (10th Street Entrance) and the Flanagan/Slay lot.